



THE FOOTLIGHT CLUB

ORGANIZED 1877

SEASON OF 1947-1948

A Highland Fling

by MARGARET CURTIS

will be given as the 224th performance by The Footlight Club in Eliot Hall, Jamaica Plain, on Thursday, December 4, Friday, December 5, and Saturday, December 6, 1947, at 8:30 P.M.

After a brief pre-Broadway run earlier in the season, this play was first produced at the Plymouth Theatre, New York, April 28, 1944, with the author as her own leading lady.

It is largely concerned with the former Laird of Cairn McGorum who cannot bear to leave this earthly sphere. Now ghosts are an accepted part of life in the Highlands of Scotland, though only to be seen and conversed with by children or those who have kept their childhood contact with the world of imagination. But complications arise when the none-too-ectoplasmic Laird starts to reform the genial village tippler and, simultaneously, an American and his daughter arrive on an unusual mission.

The problems of personalities and relationships involved in them are handled with a blend of wit and warmth that makes the play an amusing commentary on folk ways and manners and gives it a quality that lingers pleasantly in the memory.

THE CAST

CHARLIE MacKENZIE, former Laird of Cairn McGorum,
a ghost.....Thomas Barbour
JEANNIE MacKENZIE, formerly his wife, an angel
Miss Elizabeth M. Johnson
SIR ARCHIBALD MacKENZIE, their great, great, great,
great grandson, the Laird.....John F. Drum
THE LADY OF SHALOTT, usually called "SILLY",
a daftie.....Mrs. Nancy Blake Charlier
RABBIE MacGREGOR, a sinner.....Robert W. Myers
LIZZIE MacGREGOR, his wife.....Mrs. Roland von Weber
BESSIE MacGREGOR, their daughter.....Miss Selina F. Little
MALCOLM GRAHAM, an American.....Malcolm C. Rees
LILA GRAHAM, his daughter.....Mrs. Edward B. Long
HAMISH HAMILTON, owner of the local Pub....Dr. Oscar W. Billingham
ALICETRINA MacLEAN, a barmaid.....Miss Phyllis DeFord
REVEREND DOUGLAS STUART, a minister.....Richard Lyons
VILLAGERS: Mrs. Stewart C. Woodworth, Elbert B. Duncan, and others
to be announced.

INFORMATION ABOUT TICKETS

Tickets for this play, to which you are entitled as a member of The Footlight Club, are enclosed.

When possible, tickets may be exchanged for another evening, if application is made *by mail* before Monday, December 1st, addressed to DAVID McKIBBIN, 25 Marlborough Street, Boston 16. No changes can be made by telephone. Exchanges will be made in the order of their receipt. When it is impossible to make an exchange, tickets will be returned in time for use on the evening for which they were issued. Please enclose self-addressed stamped envelope for this purpose.

There is a club rule that no seats will be reserved or held for anyone. However, the Directors have voted to hold the front row seats until 8:15 o'clock for members or guests who have difficulty in hearing. The Secretary, upon request, will issue special permits for these seats and the ushers will be glad to cooperate.

For the Directors,
DANA G. WITHERELL, Secretary,

MEMBERSHIP

The Footlight Club always welcomes proposals for new members most cordially. This is especially true now, when neither the active nor associate membership list has reached the limit provided by the By-Laws. A few years ago we enjoyed a waiting list and now are striving to have one again. Many of the guests who have seen our plays and the few who have participated in their production may be interested to join the Club. As a member you have the privilege of proposing any candidate who, in your opinion, would enjoy joining the Footlight Club. Why not invite a friend to fill out an application and mail it to the Secretary? Or, you may prefer to fill out the membership proposal card with your friend's name yourself and mail it to the Secretary. He will then extend the invitation. Those on the Membership Committee listed below who live near you can provide additional application and proposal cards and stand ready to help you in every way possible. The annual fee for all members is ten dollars. When filling out cards please indicate whether active or associate membership is desired.

Requests for information regarding the operation of the Footlight Club should be addressed to the Secretary who will forward it to the officer best qualified to answer.

THE FOOTLIGHT CLUB

Season 1946-1947

THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Mr. Francis V. Balch, *Chairman*, Milton
Miss Barbara Bradford, Belmont
Mr. Henry G. Payson, Boston
Mr. Alexander S. Parker, Boston
Mrs. Jarvis Farley, Chestnut Hill
Miss Emily D. Furness, Brookline
Mr. A. H. Haffenreffer, Jr., Brookline
Mr. Malcolm C. Rees, Jamaica Plain
Dr. Oscar W. Billingham, Jamaica Plain
Mrs. Holley S. Winkfield, Jamaica Plain
Mr. David D. Scannell, Jr., Jamaica Plain
Mr. Kenneth Mittell, Wellesley
Mrs. Richard H. Overholt, Dedham

OFFICERS

President: Bertram K. Little
Secretary: Dana G. Witherell
Treasurer: David D. Scannell, Jr.

Directors:

Francis V. Balch
Edward B. Lyon
Huntington White
Malcolm C. Rees
Richard B. Rice
Leonard Ware

Trustees of the Endowment Fund:

Frank B. Lawler
Henry S. Adams
David D. Scannell, Jr.



THE CALL BOARD

Since we are members of The Footlight Club it is an obvious truth that we are theatre-minded and for that reason it is valuable to share some information about what UNESCO not only feels, but has done, about this form of expression. At UNESCO House in Paris, last summer, the following resolution was passed:

"Since theatrical art is a universal expression of mankind and possesses the influence and power to link large groups of the world's people it is hereby decided to form an independent international centre to be known as the INTERNATIONAL THEATRE INSTITUTE."

To quote Rosamond Gilder, . . . "The director of this unique international production was J. B. Priestley, . . . who believes in saying exactly what he thinks and in allowing the other fellow to do likewise as long as everything that is said is brief, salty and to the point. . . . Priestley ruled that the five days at the disposal of the delegates should be planned, like any rehearsal period, with a view to reaching certain objectives and accomplishing certain results within a given time . . ."

All this, on the vast stage of international affairs, sounds so much like the operation of our Club that it needs our attention and understanding.

Priestley's influence on the Anglo-American theatre is well known; his work has come to our attention many times: notably in LABURNUM GROVE (March 1936) and BEES ON THE BOAT DECK (May 1937). As a small pebble on the international theatrical beach, The Footlight Club should express its best regards to Mr. Priestley along with the sincere hope that theatre art, wherever expressed, can honestly serve the forthright purposes of UNESCO.

In the performance and enjoyment of our productions we do more than have one evening's fun. Together we participate in an art form that is very important. It's vital.